

within the proposed wilderness in Grand County. These lands are a section of State Land Board Land and a private mining claim. My bill will also address the need to provide facilities at the Alice Township and St. Mary's Glacier. This area is experiencing increasing use as a forest access point, and there is a need to supply adequate services for visitors in this area. My bill will also direct the Forest Service to remove an abandoned radio tower facility on Mt. Eva near James Peak.

As my bill will be an addition to the Colorado Wilderness Act of 1993, the James Peak Wilderness will be subject to the water provisions of that Act thus avoiding potential conflicts related to water. In addition, James Peak is a headwaters area, so there will be no conflicts with existing water rights.

As wilderness, the James Peak area also will be subject to the Wilderness Act of 1964. Under this Act, activities such as hiking, horseback riding, hunting, fishing, rafting, canoeing, cross-country skiing and scientific research are allowed. In addition, use of wheelchairs, treatment of diseases and insects, fire suppression activities and research and rescue activities will be allowed. Activities that would be excluded include motorized vehicle use, mining, timber harvesting, oil and gas drilling, road building and the use of motorized and mechanized equipment. In addition, my bill has been drafted in such a way as to avoid conflicts and to address concerns that were expressed during the development of Representative Skaggs' bill. Specifically, my bill addresses the following issues:

Private Lands. My bill is drawn to avoid potential conflicts with private interests by excluding private lands and facilities.

Recreation: My bill does not include the Rollins Pass road between the James Peak roadless area and the existing Indian Peaks Wilderness Area to the north. This road is used for recreational access for mountain bikers and snowmobiles. In addition, areas along the proposed western boundary within Grand County have been excluded from my bill to address recreational access to area and trails used by mountain bikers and snowmobiles. These areas include the Jim Creek drainage and the area south of the Rollins Pass road on the Grand County side.

Search and Rescue. As already provided by the Wilderness Act, activities related to the health and safety of persons within the area will be allowed, including the need to use mechanized equipment to perform search and rescue activities.

Timber and minerals. About one-third of the area is timbered—or 8,300-acres—and one-third of this is old growth. Steep slopes and lack of road make the area's timber uneconomical to harvest. The area has low mineral potential.

Grazing. The area contains only one active grazing allotment with a yearly stocking level of 60 cows and calves. Under the Wilderness Act grazing can continue.

101ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, June 12, 1999, the Republic of the Philippines and Filipinos all over the world will commemorate the 101st anniversary of the proclamation of their independence from Spain.

Outside the group of ecstatic, enlightened and freedom-loving patriots from within the archipelago's more than 7,000 islands, very few people were even remotely aware of the implications of the summer day's events of June 12, 1898. A century later, we have come to recognize the significance of the proclamation read from a balcony in Kawit, Cavite, 101 years ago.

This manifesto, closely resembling the document our forefathers signed in 1776, has come to symbolize a people's aspiration, desire and capacity to stand their ground, take control and chart their own destiny. On June 12, 1898, the Filipino people boldly declared that the desire to be a free republic is not a uniquely Western concept. The day General Emilio Aguinaldo first unfurled the Filipino flag amidst the inspiring strains of the Philippine National Anthem signalled the birth of the first republic in Asia, an event witnessed by jubilant Filipinos and curious foreign observers alike. For the first time, a political system dedicated to the ideals of democracy and popular representative government was instituted in a part of the world that, until that day, had automatically been associated with tyranny and despotism.

Although short-lived, this declaration is testament to a freedom-loving nation's devotion to the ideals of liberty and democracy. The events of June 12, 1898, rejected oppression and foreign domination. It has served as an inspiration to other peoples suffering from colonialism.

The people of Guam share deep cultural and historical ties with the Philippines. The island's population includes a large number of Filipino immigrants. Over the years, as in numerous other locales, they have integrated themselves with the island community and made themselves a vital force in the development and growth of Guam.

I am honored to join the Filipino people in the commemoration and celebration of their history. I extend my congratulations to them on the 101st anniversary of the declaration of Philippine independence.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EMPOWERMENT ZONES AND ENTERPRISE COMMUNITIES ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce bipartisan legislation to revitalize

low-income communities throughout our Nation. The bill would provide grant funding for the communities recently designated as Round II Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities and Strategic Planning Communities. In combination with various tax incentives, this direct funding will help stimulate job growth and economic revitalization in inner-city, rural, and Native American communities that have yet to benefit from our Nation's growing economy.

As the result of a bipartisan collaboration between myself and Jack Kemp in 1993, Congress created nine Empowerment Zones (6 urban/3 rural) and 94 Enterprise Communities (65 urban/29 rural), which provided several tax incentives for businesses to invest and locate in economically depressed inner-city and rural areas. OBRA 1993 also provided these same communities with approximately \$1 billion in direct Social Services Block Grant funds, which are being used to address particular barriers to increased employment and economic development, such as shortages in job training, child care, housing, and transportation. By 1997, the Round I EZs and ECs used their grant funds and tax incentives to create nearly 20,000 new jobs for people who previously had little or no economic opportunity.

A second round of 20 Empowerment Zones (EZs) was authorized by the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 to build on the success of the original 9 EZs. However, unlike the original EZs, Round II Zones have not yet been provided with Social Services Block Grant funding.

To provide Round II designations with the same advantages as the original EZs, the Empowerment Zone Enhancement Act would provide \$97 million over 9 years for each urban Empowerment Zone, and \$38 million over 9 years for each rural Empowerment Zone. In addition, the bill would provide one-time allocations for other needy rural and urban areas: \$3 million in FY 2000 for each of the 20 new Rural Enterprise Communities and \$3 million in FY 2000 for each of the 15 urban Strategic Planning Communities. Along with the tax incentives and bonding authority already approved by the last Congress, this new grant funding is expected to help create and retain about 90,000 new jobs and stimulate \$20.3 billion in private and public investment over the next ten years.

Mr. Speaker, the Empowerment Zone concept, which emphasizes business development and community renewal, is a clear success story. In my home town of Harlem, I have witnessed first hand the ability of Empowerment Zones to help renew investment and economic development. Other regions of the country are waiting for a similar economic revival. I therefore strongly urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to provide increased economic opportunity for more Americans.